His Majesties

MOST GRACIOUS

SPEECH

To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT,

On *Saturday* the 19th. Day of *October*, 1689.

LONDON,

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My Lords and Gentlemen,

THO' the last Sitting continued so long, that perhaps it might have been more Agreeable to you, in relation to your Private Concerns, not to have Met again so soon; yet the Interest of the Publick lays an indispensable Obligation upon Me to Call you together at this time.

In your last Meeting you gave Me so many Testimonies of your Affection, as well as Confidence in Me, that I do not at all question, but in this I shall receive fresh Proofs of both.

I Esteem it one of the greatest Misfortunes can befal Me, that in the beginning of My Reign I am forced to ask such large Supplies, tho' I have this Satisfaction, that they are desired for no other Purposes, but the Carrying on those Wars into which I entered with your Advice, and Assurance of your Assistance; nor can I doubt of the Blessing of God upon an Undertaking wherein I did not Engage out of a vain Ambition, but from the Necessity of Opposing those who have so visibly discovered their Designs of Destroying Our Religion and Liberties.

It is well known how far I have Exposed My Self to Rescue this Nation from the Dangers that threatned not

only your Liberty, but the Proteſtant Religion in general, of which the Church of *England* is one of the greateſt Supports, and for the Defence whereof, I am ready again to Venture my Life.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

That which I have to Ask of you at preſent is, That what you think fit to give towards the Charges of the War for this next Year may be done without delay: And there is one Reaſon which more particularly Obliges Me to preſs you to a ſpeedy Determination in this Matter, becauſe this next Month there is Appointed at the *Hague* a General Meeting of the Miniſters of all the Princes and States concerned in this War againſt *France*, in order to Concert the Meaſures for the next Campagne; and till I know your Intentions, I ſhall not only be uncertain My Self what Reſolutions to take, but Our Allies will be under the ſame Doubts, unleſs they ſee Me Supported by your Aſſiſtance: Beſides, if I know not in time what you will do, I cannot make ſuch Proviſions as will be Requiſite, but ſhall be Expoſed to the ſame Inconveniencies the next Year, which were the Cauſe that the Preparations for this were neither ſo Effectual, nor Expeditious as was Neceſſary: The Charge will alſo be conſiderably leſſened by giving time to provide things in their proper Seaſon, and without Confuſion.

I have no other Aim in this, but to be in a Condition to Attack Our Enemies in ſo Vigorous a manner, as by the Help of God in a little time may bring us to a Laſting and Honourable Peace; by which My Subjects may be Freed from the Extraordinary Expences of a Lingring War: And that I can have no greater Satisfaction then in Contributing to their Eaſe, I hope I have already given Proof.

That you may be Satisfied how the Money has been Laid out which you have already given, I have directed the Accompts to be laid before you, whenever you think fit to call for them.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have one Thing more to Recommend to you, which is, the Diſpatch of a Bill of Indemnity, that the Minds of My good Subjects being quieted, We may all Unanimouſly Concur to Promote the Welfare and Honour of the Kingdom.

FINIS.

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